

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Satoru Maeda, et al.

Serial No. : 09/996,019

For : INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD AND  
APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR  
CONTROLLING AND SIMPLIFYING A SIGN-UP  
OPERATION OF AN APPARATUS OVER A  
NETWORK(AS AMENDED)

Filed : November 28, 2001

Examiner : Nguyen, Thanh T.

Art Unit : 2144

Confirmation No. : 2691

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**RESPONSE SUBMITTED WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 26, 2005, having a three-  
month statutory period for response set to expire on October 26, 2005, Applicants submit

herewith a Request for Continued Examination and a check in the amount of \$790.00 as payment of the fee. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.